THE EXCITER

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QRZ the Editor

With the summer vacations in full swing we have had a hard time getting copy for this months issue. Prospects for next month look a little better. Some time back we prepared a fire and brimstone type edtitorial concerning membership in the ARRL. We feel pretty strong on this subject and may throw it at you in the next issue. We like to get your comments about the Exciter. We like to know just what you like and don't like; what types of articles you want; and, if you feel so inclined, write an article for us, it doesn't have to be typed. We can only promise everlasting fame with your by-line.

There is one ham in San Antonio that enjoys receiving the Exciter. Witness the following letter: Dear Sirs: Although you publish "The Exciter" free of charge, I am sure that your costs are not entirely defrayed by the local advertisers. I enjoy receiving this publication and I am enclosing a check for $2.00 to help defray any expenses. Sincerely yours, Alex Thomas, Jr. K5WRW.

To Alex we can only say Thank You. We appreciate his contribution since publishing the Exciter is a losing proposition. But most of all we are glad he enjoys the Exciter. To know that someone appreciates your efforts, no matter how large or small, makes the job worthwhile. From everyone on the Exciter, many thanks, Alex.

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SSB AROUND SAN ANTONIO

That time has arrived again with very little news. Was very happy to receive a letter from WA5AFA, John, via Ruth (K5OPT). He has just passed his General and expects to be on SSB in the near future. Welcome to SSB, John.

Conditions are still very erratic but some of the locals managed to keep working WØMLY as he moved around Africa. He had to move above 14.1 Mc after 13 July 1962. Received a message from XW8AS that he would return to the states around 1 August 1962 to get married and then become a KH6. Clay is K5OSQ and spent many hours on 15 meter mobile until a year ago. His father is Harry, W5ZG, who many of you know. Clay has tried to give everyone on XW8 contact but just doesn't get into 5-land to often.

I haven't had time to go through my revision to the Directory of Certificates to find out what is new in that respect. Maybe next month I can get a full report on the Certificate changes.

K5VCR and I finally received the WAS SSB Contest Certificate for First Place in the State of Texas. It is a very nice piece of paper and covers another hole in the shack. This contest is a very interesting one. It will be held again in September. How about giving it a try and see how many states you can get in a 24 hour period.

You know the Exciter is your paper and the information that gets in it should come from you. Up to this point most material has been furnished by a few people, so let me hear from you as I am always happy to receive any information for this column. Until next month 73 and good SSB'ing.

Mac, W5BVI

Write your Senator on Senate Bill S-2361

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VHF AND UP

FRANKFURT, Ger. So OSCAR II did go up in orbit on 1 June and caught a number of people unawise. Though it did transmit on 145 Mc, no one locally (except W5VY) seemed to have gathered any information as to whether it actually was in orbit. The newspapers were no help, as is usually the case, since space ventures are now passe. The biggest fault of the communicator is the inability to communicate. Please, if you have anything that might be of interest to others - contact the writer.

The test inflation of an ECHO II sphere was a successs in July and a launching of 135 ft. diameter aluminum/mylar sphere is scheduled for Oct.-Dec. Advanced 6 and 2 meters stations will no doubt establish contact on this go-round.

Sporadic E's has been present for its annual summer appearance. On a recent evening, signals from the midwest were received on TV channels thru channel 6 by the wrtier. Out of town stations on channel 4

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VHF Editor ---------- W5LFM
DX Editor ---------- W5LGG
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THE SAN ANTONIO RADIO CLUB, W5SC
W5EJT, Pres. K5VCR, V. P.
W5EDZ, Sec. K5UKN, Treas.

and 5 were so strong that they took over sync from the local stations! My rabbit ears provide about 30 db S/N on local stations so you can imagine how strong the signals were. Incidentaly, the strongest Es signals ever received by NBS during the famous Cedar Rapids - Sterling, Va. 50 Mc ionospheric scatter tests were recorded at 1 volt across 600 chms!

For those interested in the upper frequencies, ITT now has a new station on the air. It is KF2XBR (2299.9 Mc on the dial), the first radio station licensed for experimental radio transmission into space leading to commercial use. It is to be used primarily for moonbounce.

During July and a part of August, your writer was in Germany where a transistorized HF receiver really comes in handy. Some items of note: jamming on the BC band, Radio Moscow on 1400 Kc and on the FM band - a German lesson given in Italian! Das ist alles.

Cal Graf
W5LFM

EDITORS NOTE: Cals column was written while he was in Germany. He was in Europe during the first tele-telestar tests. We hope to have any eyewitness account of these from the other side when he prepares next months column.

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40 METERS

The band has been turning flip flops lately. Had a real nice QSO with Rusty, XE1PY, in Mexico City from 0650 AM until 0740 AM the other morning. Real fine signal from that area. Any travelers to Mexico City are invited to a get together at the American Club the second Wednesday of each month. Rusty hopes to make it to the Convention in Corpus Christi.

Welcome to San Antonio W5BXD, Looney, and K5EYL, Ira. Dean, W5BGE has returned to the air after a long absence. Clint, W5DIP, now living in San Bernardino, California, was a visitor in town to see his son graduate from Trinity. Clint hopes to be on the air soon from 6-land.

Dick, W5HWL, of Abilene was a recent visitor in San Antonio. Welcome to all the newcomers. Heard the lowwowing stations on 40 within the last month: K5MQK/m, K5DMK, W5AFC, K5ATT, K5DSQ, WA5AXK, K5ZSF, K5HQR, W5EWV, K5EBC, WB2AGP/5, W4JDT/m5, K5HRF/m, K5HHR, K5FRV, K5UKN/m, W5BGE, W5ZBI, K5GVP/m, K5RKX/5, K5RWJ, K5OMD.

Some DX is cropping up on 40 meter fone - worked OA5N - Ica, Peru, HR2BK, Honduras.

Would appreciate getting news on 40 meter operations.

73,
Aubrey, K5MOF

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FRED K5ENK **PAUL K5OHG** **JIM K5TYI**

DX NOTES by W5LGG

Dick, WØMLY, is now back home in Iowa after what must surely be the most prodigious one-man DX-pedition in amateur radio history. His itinerary included nearly all of the newly independent central and west African nations; namely Gabon (TRS), Congo (TN8), Tchad (TT8), Central African Republic (TL8), Cameroons (YJ8), Togoland (5V4), Dahomey (TY2), and Mali, (TZ2). He totaled over 30,000 contacts and removed those new countries from the rarer than rare list.

This leaves the new nations of Ruanda and Burundi as the most sought after African DX. These two infant nations were formerly the Belgian Colony of Rwanda-Urundi (9U5), and it is expected that DXCC credit will be given for both the old 9U5 contacts and separately for the new nations for a total of three.

Meanwhile, off the coasts of Africa, other DX news is in the making. Gus Browning, W4BPD, handed out 7,000 Aldabra Island QSO's in his long stay. This was new for everyone, since there had been no previous ham activity there. On his return trip to Seychelles, Gus' ship weathered a violent Indian Ocean storm which tore off the rudder and delayed his arrival. One news service reported the ship lost with all aboard; but Gus's signals from VQ9A/MM were soon heard reporting thatno sinking had taken place. As this is written, Gus is on from Chagos, VQ8C, and has hopes of activating Rodriquez (VQ8R), Comoros (FB8), Tromelin (FB8) and possible St. Brandon (VQ8B).

Ack, W4ECI, has done an outstanding job on handling QSL's for Gus. He states that donations are welcome; and his low-pressure approach is a most welcome relief from the high-pressure tactics applied by some groups to finance their DX-peditions.

The recent bonanza of rare countries has added nicely to DX scores hereabout. W5UX still leads the pack with 293 confirmed. Bob is followed by W5LGG with 286, K5BGB with 283, and W5EJT with 231. That elusive DXCC 300 mark is in sight now for many DX'ers who never really thought they would reach it. The addition of Ruanda and Burundi to the list, plus credit now allowed for the Marianas Islands (separate from Guam) and the forthcoming DX-pedition of Danny Weil and Gus Browning to many rare spots will make nearly a dozen extremely rare countries available for the addicted. It's a sure thing that W5ADZ, W5ASG and W5MMK are soon due for company in their exalted 300 confirmed level in the DX sky.

73 & DX
Len W5LGG

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GUTTER DOPE

The Exciter mailing list is being revised and expanded. 111 new names have been added this month. To those of you who are receiving the Exciter for the first time this month we wish to say Howdy, and invite you to attend the meetings of the San Antonio Radio Club on the first and third Fridays of each month at the Durham School of Electronics on Main Ave. at Romana Plaza, -...- K5OPS, Ethel, and children were in San Antonio visiting with the Janks, K5OPT, W5EJT -...- Congratulations to Willard, W5FND, and his XYL, Grace, on the arrival of a male type harmonic. Much QRM say Willard -...- Incidentally, Willard has the restoration job on the GE receiver almost complete. For those that missed the meetings in April - the facts. Willard obtained a set of GE Progress Line 2 meter FM mobile gear. The only hitch was that it had been destroyed by Hurricane Carla last September. The tubes were full of water, the chassis was rusty as only salt water will rust and mud (better still clay) covered most of the components. Willard very carefully disassembled the mess and, using new parts where needed, has rebuild the transmitter so that it is as good as new (of course GE may not agree, hi!!) With the receiver almost finished, he will have a fine rig for mobile use. Just shows what can be done with a little time and a lot of patience. -...- The Turnages, Bob and Aileen (W5RSD & K5OPV) to be congratulated on their new addition to the family, 9 month old Susan being welcomed to the Turnage household. -...- Then there was the young Novice whose mother wouldn't let him bring his rig in the house because it had a "leaky" capacitor. -...- Did you hear about the ham that was whispering into his mike? Seems he didn't want someone on the other side of town to hear him. -...-

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